



BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

—1940—

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EAST PALLANT HOUSE,
CHICHESTER.

October, 1941.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Arundel.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Arundel, and the work done in the Public Health Department during the year 1940.

The pressure of war conditions has, of necessity, caused some curtailment of the routine work of the Sanitary Inspector, particularly in respect of house inspection, whilst the additional duties which have fallen on the Inspector in his capacity as Air Raid Precautions Sub-Controller and Air-Raid Precautions Officer have been considerable.

Mr. Gates has had, and still has, a most difficult task to perform, and the Council is most fortunate in possessing such a conscientious and able Officer.

The Birth Rate for the Borough in 1940 was 12.2 per 1,000 population as compared with 13.6 in 1939 and a national figure of 14.6 in 1940.

The local Death Rate was 17.03 per 1,000 population, as compared with 13.2 in 1939 and a national figure of 14.03 in 1940.

Apart from a somewhat increased incidence of Pneumonia, there has been little change in the occurrence of infectious or other diseases during the year.

I wish to tender my thanks to Mr. Gates for his loyal co-operation and assistance during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC WARD.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

ERIC WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

G. A. GATES.

Clerical Staff.

MISS J. MORRISSEY.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in acres	2054
Enumerated population (census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2490
Enumerated population (National Registration Day, October, 1939)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3092
Registrar General's Estimate of population (middle of 1940)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2700
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	771
Rateable Value (April, 1940)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£18878
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1940)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£74

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

<i>Live Births :</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	13	19
Illegitimate	...	—	1
Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population :—			12.2
<i>Still Births :</i>			
There were two still births, both legitimate, recorded during the year 1940, as compared with none for the previous year.			
<i>Deaths (Males 19, Females 27)</i>	46
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	17.03
Death Rate (adjusted by Registrar General's A.C.F. Figure 0.81)	13.79
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil
Number of deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	3
Death Rate per 1,000 population from :—			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1.1
All forms of Tuberculosis	1.1
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	1.1
Cancer	3.70
Principal Zymotic Diseases: Smallpox, Enteric Fever			
Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria			
and Membranous Croup	Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age)	Nil
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of Children under 2 years of age, per 1,000 births	Nil

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The ancient Borough of Arundel is a small country town situated on the River Arun. Agriculture on the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, retail shop-keeping and the entertainment of holiday visitors provide occupation for the majority of the inhabitants.

The Borough is scheduled as a Reception Area, and at the beginning of the war there was a large influx of temporary residents, including 498 members of the priority classes who were officially billeted in the town. During the Winter of 1939-40, many of these returned home, but with the intensification of aerial bombardment came a further influx in the Autumn of 1940. At the end of the year, 235 persons were still officially billeted in the town.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births, a net total of 33 live births (13 males and 20 females) was registered in the Borough during the year.

The BIRTH RATE is 12.2 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.6 for the previous year, 14.6 for England and Wales and 11.57 and 13.59 for Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The illegitimate live births numbered 1, or 3.03 per cent of the total live births, the same figure as in the previous year.

Stillbirths.

Two stillbirths were registered during the year, as compared with none in 1939. This figure gives a rate of 57.14 per 1,000 live and stillbirths and 0.74 per 1,000 of the population.

Deaths.

After correction for transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in the Borough was 46 (19 males and 27 females), an increase of 12 on the total for 1939.

The DEATH RATE is 17.03 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.1 for the previous year, 14.3 for England and Wales and 14.99 and 11.86 for Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

A table on page 5 shows the ages and sex distribution of causes of death in 1940. Of the total deaths, 24, or 52.2 per cent, occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

The following are the chief causes of death, in order of frequency:—

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Compared with the figures for the previous year, there has been a considerable increase in the deaths due to cancer and intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin, whilst deaths attributed to diseases of the heart and circulatory system have been reduced by half. Mortality from diabetes is remarkably high.

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1940

Maternal Mortality.

As in the previous year, there were no deaths directly due to pregnancy or child bearing.

Infantile Mortality.

After correction for transferable deaths, there were three deaths (all males) of infants under one year of age. This compares with no deaths for the previous year.

Two of the deaths, infants of 1 and 5 days, were attributed to prematurity, whilst the third, a child of 1 month, was due to infantile convulsions.

The INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE is 91 per 1,000 live births, as compared with a nil rate for the previous year, 55 for England and Wales and 53 and 46 for the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

Comparative Statistics, 1940.

	England & Wales		West Sussex		Arundel
	Urban	Rural			
Birth Rate	14.6	11.57	13.59
Death Rate	14.3	14.99	11.86
Infantile Death Rate	55	53	46
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate	—	0.43	0.32
Zymotic Death Rate	—	0.04	0.06
Cancer Death Rate	—	2.19	1.52
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	2.16	4.9	1.7	—

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

Particulars of the staff of the department are given at the beginning of the Report.

Laboratory Facilities.

On the 1st October, 1940, the Borough Council approved of affiliation with the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Scheme, and laboratory work for the Borough continued to be carried out at the Laboratories of the West Sussex County Council and the Royal West Sussex Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities.

There has been no change in the arrangements as detailed in the Annual Report for 1938.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

General : The Arundel District Nursing Association employs one nurse who does all the district nursing and some midwifery.

Infectious Diseases : By arrangement with the Arundel District Nursing Association, all cases of Measles, Pneumonia and German Measles are visited by the Local District Nurse, and given nursing attention if required.

Midwifery : There is one Midwife resident in the Borough, whilst two other Midwives resident in adjoining areas take cases in the Borough.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre :—

Granville House, Maltravers Street, Arundel ... Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.

School Clinics :—

Minor Ailments Clinic	} Granville House, ... Wednesday mornings.	} Maltravers St., Arundel ... Wednesday afternoons.	} Arranged periodically.
Eye Clinic			
Orthopaedic Clinic			
Dental Clinic			
Aural Clinic.—School Clinic, Chapel Street, Chichester.	"	"	"

Children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids are treated by arrangement at the Arundel Cottage Hospital.

Tuberculosis Clinic :—

The Clinic, Chapel Street, Chichester Tuesdays, 10.0 a.m.

Venereal Diseases :—

Worthing Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	Times on application.
Royal Portsmouth Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	Times on application.

Hospitals.

1. **Tuberculosis.**

(a) Aldingbourne House	...	...	...	...	61 beds for adults. 9 beds for children.
(b) Worthing Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	12 beds.
(c) Royal West Sussex Hospital	...	...	...	...	Beds as required.

2. **Maternity.**

(a) Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
(b) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
(c) Worthing Hospital.

3. **Sick Children.**

Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Dyke Road, Brighton.

4. **Smallpox.**

Brighton Smallpox Hospital, Fulking, by arrangement with the West Sussex County Council and Brighton Corporation.

5. **Infectious Diseases.**

The arrangement detailed in previous Reports for the maintenance of one bed at the Swandeon Isolation Hospital, Worthing, has been continued.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

There have been no new sources of public water supply or any extension of mains.

Arundel water is supplied by the Duke of Norfolk from a deep well on his estate near Swanbourne Lake. The water is sufficient in quantity and is chlorinated at the expense of the Local Authority.

No samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination but frequent colorimetric tests, using ortho-tolidine as the re-agent, have been made with W. and T. Hellige Comparator, in order to test the efficiency of the chlorination process.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No extensions to sewers or alterations in the method of treatment and disposal of sewerage have been made during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

A ditch in Ford Road receiving drainage from farm lands and from the Torton Estate, and with a penstock outlet to the river, has been cleansed through action by the Local Authority, with financial assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Public Cleansing.

Apart from the collection of salvage for the war effort, there has been no change in the arrangements made for public cleansing.

Shop Act, 1934.

At the end of the year, there were 72 shops on the register. During the year, 83 visits and inspections were made to premises on the register.

Number of defects found on inspection	...	...	5
Sanitary defects	...	...	1
Number of defects remedied	...	...	1
Cleansing defects	...	...	1
Remedied	...	...	1
Accumulations	...	...	3
Remedied	...	...	3

Camping Sites.

No sites in the area were used for camping purposes during 1940, and no licences were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke Abatement.

There has been no need for action in this matter.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are two swimming baths belonging to the Council (one free to the Public and one open on small payment). These are cleaned twice weekly by the Council's own staff, and Voxsan used for purification.

Eradication of Bed-bugs.

No house was found to be infested with bed bugs.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

No tents, vans or sheds have been situated in the Borough and no action has been required during the year.

Rats and Mice.

Poison is periodically laid on Town property. During Rat Week the Council took action by posters, handbills and the offer of threepence per rat brought in. During the period 2nd August to 30th December, 421 rats were brought in.

Mosquitoes.

No complaints have been received regarding mosquitoes, and no action has been taken.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the Borough on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Schools.

There are two schools in regular use in the Borough, each being supplied with main water and equipped with water closets. During the year, St. Phillip's Club has been used as a school for evacuated children.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Details of Sanitary Work and Improvements under Public Health and Housing Acts.

No. of inspections in regard to Infectious Disease	...	...	...	35
No. of premises disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	18
No. of premises disinfected after cancer by request	...	...	...	1
No. of nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	15
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	...	15
Offensive accumulations found	...	...	...	4
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	4
Defective W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	8
No. of defective drains repaired	...	...	...	1
No. of choked drains cleared	...	...	...	5
No. of ashbins provided	...	...	...	27
No. of defective windows repaired	...	...	...	3
No. of roofs repaired	...	...	...	6
No. of houses where guttering and rainwater pipes have been repaired	...	...	...	6
No. of defective walls and ceilings where plastering has been repaired	...	...	...	5
No. of damp walls treated, repointed or rendered	...	...	...	2
No. of floors repaired	...	...	...	6
No. of yard paving repaired	...	...	...	2
No. of cleansing and decorating	...	...	...	10

Summary—

Total number of inspections made for all purposes	...	...	429
Total number of notices served :—			
Informal	...	...	52
Statutory	...	...	—
Total number of summonses issued	...	...	—
Convictions obtained	...	...	—
Complaints received	...	...	4
Complaints found justified and dealt with	...	...	4

Section IV.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance.

No action has been taken regarding slum clearance during the year.

Housing Statistics.

No new houses were erected in the Borough during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

Owing to the heavy duties in connexion with Civil Defence which have fallen on the Inspector, the routine inspection of houses has continued to be suspended. The Inspector, however, in the course of his various tours of the Borough, has made observations and casual visits to such places as seem desirable to him. Employees of the Council have been instructed to report anything which they consider calls for the attention of the Sanitary Inspector.

All specific requests and complaints have been investigated and suitable action taken. In this connexion, 41 houses have been visited and informal notices issued in respect of 22 of these. All the defects noted in the Orders have been remedied.

In one case, through the collapse of the roof, the house was considered unfit and incapable of being made fit for human habitation. The owner desired it to be closed, and the occupier, a widow, living alone, was supplied with accommodation in a vacant alms house.

2. Remedyng of Defects during the Year without Service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.—22

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

No action was taken under any of the Sections of the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Factories.

Inspections made :—

Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	5
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	0
Workshops	...	...	...	...	31

Notices were served in respect of :—

Defective sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Defective surface water drainage	...	...	...	...	1
Defective plaster of wall	...	...	...	...	1
All were complied with.					

There are no outworkers in the district.

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

There are 4 farms in the district, and these accommodate approximately 145 cows. All the farms are supplied with water from a public source of supply.

Number of Dairymen (Cowkeepers and Milksellers), etc., in the district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of these registered as Wholesalers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number registered as Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Dairymen exempt from registration by reason of not selling milk from their cows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Number of Inspections made :—

(1) Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
(2) Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

Number of Inspections during milking time	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of Contraventions of the Regulations found	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Number of Premises found to require :—

(1) Cleansing and Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(2) Structural or Sanitary Improvements—								
(a) Manure accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(3) Other Contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

Number of these requirements carried out :—

(1) Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(2) Structural or Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Sediment Tests :—

Number of samples tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of filters clean	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Milk Sampling :—

During the year, 2 samples of undesigned milk were submitted for examination at the County Laboratory. One sample was found to be not equal to the standard required for Accredited milk, whilst the other sample was examined for tubercle bacilli, with a negative result.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1931-38.

The following licences have been granted during the year :—

(a) By Municipal Borough of Arundel	Nil
(b) By West Sussex County Council :—								
Producer's Licences :—								

Accredited	3
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During the year, 12 samples of Accredited milk were examined at the County Laboratory. The results of the examinations showed 8 samples to be satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory. The 12 samples were all collected by officers of the County Agricultural Department.

Legal Proceedings.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Orders and Regulations during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is no public abattoir in the Borough, but there are two private slaughterhouses. Under the Live Stock (Restriction of Slaughtering Order) 1940, both slaughterhouses were closed on the 15th January and since then supplies for local butchers have been delivered from Littlehampton.

Inspection of butchers' shops and carts was continued during the year, and the following quantities of meat were condemned in the shops :—

1 hind quarter heifer	—149 lbs. tubercular.
2 legs pork	—27 lbs. 4ozs. bruised and in bad condition.
Whole carcase of heifer	—192 lbs. forequarter } 226 lbs. hindquarter } tubercular.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows :—

Inspections of slaughterhouses under Meat Regulations	8
Number of inspections to butchers' shops	... ... 91
Number of inspections to vehicles or carts	... ... 48

Three contraventions of the Regulations were found during the past year :—

Need for distempering	... ... ... ... 1
Offal thrown in river	... ... ... ... 2

All were remedied on service of notice.

The following table shows details of the carcases inspected before the closure of the slaughterhouses. No meat was condemned during this period.

<i>Cattle including Cows.</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
6	2	32	16

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

During the year, five renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Local Authority.

Bread.

There are four bakehouses in the Borough, none of them underground of which 49 inspections have been made. One notice was served in respect of defective plaster over table, and was complied with.

Shell Fish.

There are no shell fish beds or layings in the Borough.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following table shows the number of samples taken by the County Council (who are the Administrative Authority for this Act) together with the results of the examinations :—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
New Milk	4	4	—
Meat Paste	1	1	—
Whiskey	1	1	—
Coffee	1	1	—
	7	7	—

Other Foods.

During the year, 14 lbs. of butter and 28 lbs. of collar bacon were condemned.

Section VI.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Apart from a considerable increase in the incidence of Pneumonia, two isolated cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and one of Malaria, there has been no unusual occurrence of infectious or other disease in the Borough during the year.

The table given below gives details of cases of infectious disease notified during the year :—

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	Age Distribution							
				0—1	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Diphtheria ...	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	8	5	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3	1
Scarlet Fever ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	22	7	—	—	7	3	—	—	4	3	2
											3

* Non-civilian. Dealt with by appropriate Service Authority.

Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year, and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified during the year was 3, as compared with 2 in 1939. All three cases were mild in character, and were not admitted to hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation by the Medical Officers of the County Health Department has continued.

Scarlet Fever.

Two cases were notified during the year, as compared with none in 1939. The cases were mild in character, and the patients were both nursed at home.

Enteric Fever.

No cases of Typhoid or Para-Typhoid Fever were notified during year, and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Erysipelas.

Two cases were notified during the year, this being the same number as for 1939.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

No cases were notified during the year, and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Measles.

The epidemic of Measles which occurred in Sussex in the Autumn and Winter of 1940-41 did not reach Arundel until the Spring of 1941. During 1940, two cases were notified, as compared with one in the last quarter of 1939.

Whooping Cough.

Two cases of this disease were notified as compared with none in 1939.

Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

During the year 6 cases of Acute Primary and 2 cases of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia were notified. Five cases were admitted to hospital, and all the patients made good recoveries.

Influenza.

Two deaths were certified as due to this disease, as compared with one in the previous year.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Two cases of this disease were notified. Both were adults. There was apparently no connexion between the two cases, who were both removed to hospital, where they made good recoveries.

Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer during the year was 10, as compared with 3 in 1939.

The age and sex distribution of the ten cases are given below:—

<i>Ages</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>
0-55	—	—	—
55-65	1	3	4
65-75	2	2	4
75-	2	—	2
 Totals	 5	 5	 10

Localisation of the Disease.

<i>Buccal Cavity and Pharynx</i>	...	Tongue and floor or mouth	...	1
<i>Digestive Organs and Peritoneum</i>		Stomach	...	2
		Rectum	...	1
		Liver	...	2
<i>Other Sites</i>	...	Breast	...	2
		Prostate	...	1
		Thyroid Gland	...	1

Tuberculosis.

Notification Register of Tubercular Patients.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the year 1940:—

	Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases.			Total Cases (All forms)		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
(1) No. on Register at 1/1/40 ...	2	3	5	1	—	1	3	3	6
(2) Cases previously removed and returning during 1940 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) New cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge) in 1940	—	4	4	2	—	2	2	4	6
(4) Cases removed from Register in 1940	2	7	9	3	—	3	5	7	12
(5) No. on Register at 31/12/40 ...	1	5	6	2	—	2	3	5	8

New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 25	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 to 45	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45 to 55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	4	2	—	1	2	—	—

One person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified in the Borough during life.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172, during the year.

